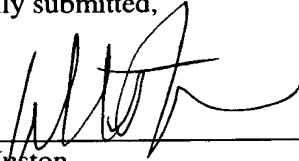


REMARKS

Claims 5-7 are amended for compliance with 35 U.S.C. §112, 2nd para. Claims 12 and 14 are amended to correct typographical errors.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

Respectfully submitted,



Larry L. Huston
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Registration No. 32,994
(513) 634-9358

Date: June 5, 2002

Customer No. 27752

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

The claims have been amended as follows:

5. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein said voltage increases at [the] a rate of 0.1 to 10 volts per second.
6. (Amended) The method according to claim 5 wherein said current nonlinearly increases from a baseline value to said [threshold] predetermined value.
7. (Amended) The method according to claim 5 wherein said current monotonically increases from a baseline value to said [threshold] predetermined value.
12. (Amended) A device according to claim 11 wherein each said electrode has a contact area of at least 0.01 square mm.
14. (Amended) A device according to claim 12 wherein [each] said electrodes are spaced apart a distance of 3 to 10 mm.

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